



For Immediate Release
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Leading Biochemist Joins HKUST

Professor Jerry Hsueh-Ching Wang, an expert in the field of signal transduction, has joined the Department of Biochemistry at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

Specialising in the biochemistry of cellular regulation, Professor Wang's research is based primarily on protein, peptide and enzyme chemistry which have emerged in recent years as the basic components in essentially every discipline of biosciences. As many of the key proteins in signal transduction systems have been touted as new targets for therapeutic drug design, Professor Wang's research contributes to biotechnology as well as pharmaceutical industry.

"In the last decade, our effort to understand diseases like cancer has focused on the role of oncogenes, the causes of certain cancers," says Professor Wang. "And almost all oncogenes turn out to be involved in the cellular signal transduction system. Also, a number of neuro-degenerating maladies have been shown to involve abnormalities in signal transduction process."

Professor Wang has received numerous honours and awards, including Iowa State University's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1978 and the Gairdner International Award for Medical Research in 1981. An elected member of the Royal Society of Canada, Professor Wang has also received an honorary doctorate from Kagawa Medical University and an ASTech Award for leadership in Alberta Science.

Prior to joining HKUST, Professor Wang was professor of medical biochemistry at the University of Calgary. He earned his BSc in agricultural chemistry at National Taiwan University and his PhD in biochemistry at Iowa State University.

"The availability of resources and accessibility to outstanding postgraduate students from the Chinese Mainland and Hong Kong are major reasons for my coming to HKUST," Professor Wang says of his new appointment.

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